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Torrance Press-Herald

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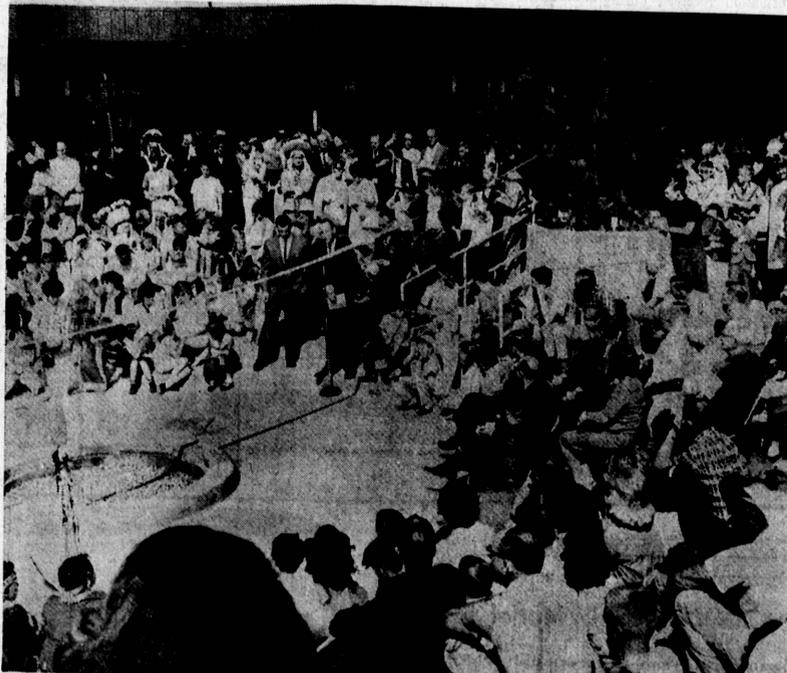
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76 PAGES



AT YMCA DEDICATION . . . A near overflow crowd is jammed into the new amphitheater of the Torrance Family YMCA at 2900 W. Sepulveda Blvd. during the first of three dedication services Sunday. Here contractor Paul Kiely (at microphone

center) speaks about the new facilities just before turning the keys over to Dr. Rollin Smith, a charter member of the YMCA board of managers. Later services dedicated the signature tile wall and the chapel. (Press-Herald Photo)

9,000 Visit YMCA Facility During Dedication Program

More than 9,000 people visited the new Torrance Family YMCA facilities here Sunday afternoon and joined in one or more of the three dedication services, according to Joe Wilcox, executive secretary of the organization. Sunday's three-part program began at 2 p.m. with the Rev. Edward Goodell's dedication prayer in which he offered thanks "for the dreams that have brought us to this hour." The Rev. Mr. Goodell, recently retired as a Methodist minister, is chap-

lain of the YMCA and was its 1965 "Good Neighbor." The Rev. Hans Holburn of the Riviera Methodist Church and the Rev. Francis Rath of Seaside Community Church shared in dedicating the Signature Title Wall at 4 p.m. YMCA graduate Thomas Petepiece, a ministerial student, dedicated the Council Room and Chapel at an overflow service at 6 p.m. Present during the first dedication ceremonies was Paul Kiely, general contractor, who turned the keys over to Dr. Rollin R. Smith, charter member of the board of manager and one of the or-

ganizers of the Torrance YMCA. Mayor Albert Isen presented a City Council resolution noting the opening and commended the leaders for the years of work with youth of the community. Traditional ribbon-cutting ceremonies featured the Richard Brown family of 823 Fay Smith Ave., who cut the 120-foot long ribbon which had been stretched across the amphitheater. The Brown family is completely involved in YMCA work, including Y-Indian Guides, Hi-Y, Tri-Hi-Y,

Leaders Club, Y's Men's Club and the board of managers. The Tile Signature Wall contains 2008 signature tiles honoring families, firms, and service groups that participated in the building fund drive. The new facilities were opened for business Monday morning and will be the scene of a kick-off banquet this evening beginning at 7 to set up the volunteer campaign for the current support program. Reservations are not needed tonight, Y officials emphasized. (Continued on A-4)

Area Bands To Play at North High

North High School gymnasium will be the setting for an elementary school music festival featuring bands from eight elementary schools in the North Torrance area Friday evening. The 7:30 p.m. event will showcase the talents of students from Carr, Casimir, Crenshaw, Hamilton, Lincoln, Madison, Perry, and Yukon elementary schools and North High School. Directors will be: Milton Marcus, chairman, Jerry Andrews, Peter Fisher, and Robert Jones. Elementary school band numbers will include: "Circus Medley March," themes from Exodus by Gold, "Romeo and Juliet" by Tschai-kovsky, a Mary Poppins Medley, American folk songs, "June is Bustin' Out All Over," and Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever."

North High's Saxon Band will play "Bolero Espanol" by Lecuona, "Marche Slav" by Tschai-kovsky, and "Saints in Concert" by Moffitt. The finale, featuring a combined elementary and high school band, will be "Patriotic Fantasy" by George M. Cohan.

Trustees Seek New Aid Funds

Applications for \$66,000 in federal funds were approved by the Torrance Board of Education Monday under matching fund provisions of the Economic Opportunities Act of 1963. Dr. Albert Posner, assistant superintendent of schools for educational services, said the money, if approved by the State Department of Education, would be used to improve vocational education facilities at the four Torrance high schools. The federal program is administered by the state, Dr. Posner said. The applications cover six programs, including a renewal of a child care aide program at Torrance High School. Other programs are:

- Secretarial skills laboratories for North, South, and Torrance high schools, as well as additional equipment for an existing program at West High.
- Vocational drafting for South High School.
- Power mechanics classes at Torrance High School.
- Improved vocational counseling at South and West high schools.



START STREET WORK . . . Lomita officials were joined by Supervisor Burton Chace (center), chairman of the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, Monday for the start of a \$125,000 improvement project along Narbonne Avenue. With Chace are, from left, Mayor Clyde Bernhardt and City Councilmen Wilbur Hammond, Joe Haslam, and Willard Brown. Narbonne Avenue will be widened between 240th and 264th Streets under a \$125,000 contract awarded a week ago by the Lomita City Council. (Press-Herald Photo)

June Bond Issue Set at \$9 Million

Offers Cabled To N.Y.

An invitation to relocate the New York Stock Exchange in Torrance was extended last night by the City Council in a telegram to Keith Funston, president of the exchange.

The invitation, endorsed by the council at the suggestion of Mayor Albert Isen, has the backing of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and the developers of the Del Amo Financial Center.

"Developers have assured us there is ample ground area to provide unexcelled facilities for the New York Stock Exchange and related businesses in a beautiful urban-semi-rural setting," the telegram said. It was signed by Isen and Bruce Jones, president of the Chamber of Commerce.



BERNARD GAREN Takes Barstow Post

Second Top Aid Resigns

By JERRY REYNOLDS Press-Herald Staff Writer

Dr. Bernard Garen, acting assistant superintendent of schools for business, resigned that position Monday to become assistant superintendent in the newly created Barstow Unified School District. Dr. Garen will be released from his contract with the Torrance schools April 14—a date which was agreed to following a stormy personnel session of the Board of Education Monday.

He is the second high ranking school official to resign this month. S. E. Waldrip, assistant superintendent for business for the past 11 years, left the Torrance schools March 7 to become an assistant superintendent in the Inglewood Unified School District.

DR. GAREN listed his reasons for leaving the local schools in a confidential letter to the Board of Education dated March 8. The letter, which Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, apparently did not deliver to the board until Monday's meeting, triggered a sharp debate which was carried into the personnel session.

Dr. Hull had recommended that Dr. Garen be released from his contract "as soon after April 15 as possible." Dr. Garen apparently had asked to be relieved of his duties on April 8. Discussion of the resignation began in the public meeting when trustee Bert M. Lynn demanded to know why Dr. Hull had not given the letter to the board.

"IT IS MY understanding there has been a letter to the board," Lynn said. "The superintendent has seen fit to call me on many innocuous items, but I have not been called on this." Lynn said he had not seen the letter and added, "I want this letter that is addressed to me."

"Dr. Garen is going to a newly organized district," he continued. "I feel that since you (Dr. Hull) didn't even consider him for assistant superintendent, you should have considered him for assistant superintendent."

"I can't see no reason why we can't go \$9.5 million," Lynn said. "The reason we have a \$3 million surplus is that administration guessed wrong." Lynn told Wilson. "I feel \$9 million will last four years. We can live with that." Lynn also said he felt the state would review the entire school funding picture during the next few years.

Board Slices Bond Request By \$1 Million

Torrance voters will be asked to authorize a \$9 million school bond issue at the June 7 primary election. The figure was set by a 4-0 vote of the Board of Education Monday. Mrs. Kenneth E. Watts, president of the board, was not present. Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, had submitted a request to set the figure at \$10 million. He said a minimum of \$9.5 million was needed to meet the district's needs for the next three years.

THE MAJOR cut was the elimination of \$3 million which was to have been earmarked for a vocational education center.

Voters rejected a \$12.5 million bond issue, which included funds for the vocational center, at a special election last Feb. 8. The issue failed to get the necessary two-thirds vote, although it did win a majority of favorable votes.

Dr. Hull told trustees the \$9 million could be expected to last "two and a half to three years if our building needs require us to be bonded to capacity."

"THIS MIGHT put us in the position of holding bond, tax-override, and school board elections in the same year," he told the board. Dr. Hull then added, "That's exactly where we are headed."

Dr. Donald E. Wilson, noting the recommendation for a \$10 million issue, said he

"could see no reason why we can't go \$9.5 million."

"The reason we have a \$3 million surplus is that administration guessed wrong," Lynn told Wilson. "I feel \$9 million will last four years. We can live with that."

Lynn also said he felt the state would review the entire school funding picture during the next few years.

LYNN campaigned against the \$12.5 million bond issue in February. At one point Monday, trustee William J. Hanson asked Lynn and Dr. Kurt T. Shery, who also opposed the February election, if they "will publicly support" the \$9 million request.

"Sure I will," Lynn quipped. "What do you want me to do, take an oath in blood?" A final decision on the June 7 date is expected shortly. Dr. Louis Kaplan, assistant superintendent for special services, told the board. He said the County Board of Supervisors must approve the date before the district can proceed with the election.

To Conduct 4-C Mission

Rev. Walter M. Stanton, minister of Central Evangelical United Brethren Church will leave this week for Stockton where he will conduct the "4-C" Mission preaching service at Grace Church, March 25-31.

Candidates' Meetings - - -

Three meetings designed to bring the candidates for city offices before the public are currently scheduled prior to the April 12 election. All candidates for city office have been invited to appear at the Carl Steele School, 19300 Inglewood Ave., on Sunday afternoon from 2:30 to 4:30. A major candidates' night meeting will be held in the Torrance Recreation Center on Thursday night, March 31, under the sponsorship of the Torrance League of Women Voters. A third meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., April 7, at the Hickory Elementary School. The Palo Del Amo homeowners are sponsoring this meeting.

Renewal Plan Delayed - - -

Submission of the city's plan for development of an area west of the Torrance Municipal Airport has been delayed until about July 1, Lawrence Irwin, deputy executive director of the city's Redevelopment Agency, told the Press-Herald last night. Irwin said the plan could not be filed until hearings now scheduled by the Planning Commission are completed. The hearings are being held to determine whether Madrona Street or Maple Avenue will be incorporated into the street pattern in the area. The federal government will not accept an alternate street plan, Irwin said. The application was due to be submitted last December.

Park Ceremonies Set - - -

Three groundbreaking ceremonies for city recreation facilities have been scheduled during the next 10 days, it was reported by the city's Recreation Department this morning. Work on the Freeway Playground at 2050 W. 186th St. will be launched at 11 a.m. tomorrow. Two programs are scheduled for Saturday, April 2. Ceremonies will be held at Lago Seco Park, 3920 W. 235th St. at 11 a.m. and a second one at Hickory Park, 2850 W. 232nd St., at noon.